



March 3, 1994

Superfund Fact Sheet

Colbert Landfill Site

Colbert, Washington

This fact sheet is to update you on the status of activities at the Colbert Landfill Superfund site. The construction of a groundwater extraction and treatment system was required by an agreement between EPA, Ecology, Spokane County, and Keytronic Corporation as a necessary part of the cleanup. The groundwater cleanup system is expected to be completed in mid-April.

The Groundwater Interception System

Ten groundwater extraction wells have been constructed that can extract up to 2.3 million gallons of contaminated water per day. The actual pumping rates will be determined during the start-up of the treatment system. Four of the wells will extract groundwater from the shallow upper aquifer and the remaining six wells will extract groundwater from the deep lower aquifer. A network of approximately 3.4 miles of underground piping has been constructed to convey the extracted contaminated groundwater to the treatment facility.

The Groundwater Treatment Facility

The groundwater treatment facility is located on the southern boundary of the closed Colbert Landfill just west of the intersection of Big Meadows Road and Elk-Chattaroy Road and along the entrance road to the City of Spokane Solid Waste Transfer Station.

Construction is about 85 percent complete and testing is scheduled for mid-March. An air stripping tower, 10 feet in diameter and 72 feet tall, is the fundamental treatment process and has already been installed at the site.

A 4000 square foot building has been completed that contains the main control and monitoring center for the entire system. The control center will continuously monitor and regulate the systems, and will also collect data from each of the extraction wells.

A "closed loop" (no discharge will occur) performance test of the groundwater treatment system is scheduled for late March. The test must prove that the system will remove the contaminants and achieve the performance standards for discharge specified in the Consent Decree. No water will be discharged to the Little Spokane River until the performance of the groundwater treatment system is confirmed by the closed loop performance test.

Once the test has been successfully completed, Spokane County will begin operating the system. A pipeline constructed for the initial groundwater treatment studies will carry the treated groundwater to the Little Spokane River for discharge. Operational data will be continuously monitored and automatically recorded by a computer-based system.

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The Compliance Monitoring Program

Twenty-four groundwater monitoring wells are located down gradient and cross gradient of the extraction wells. Groundwater will be collected and analyzed frequently to confirm that contaminated groundwater plumes are being adequately intercepted. In addition, groundwater will be collected from several monitoring wells and privately owned wells before and during operation of the system to monitor its affect on private wells. It is not anticipated that the extraction system will adversely affect private water supplies. If private wells that were in use before March 1989 are affected, Spokane County will be required to take corrective action.

The treated discharge water entering the Little Spokane River and the water quality of the river at the outfall will be monitored by the county as part of the project's compliance monitoring program. The Washington Department of Ecology has developed discharge limits which meet federal and state requirements for point source discharges.

Technical documents providing details of the discharge have been added to the information repositories and are available for public review at:

North Spokane Library
East 44 Hawthorne Road
Spokane

Colbert Elementary School
East 4526 Green Bluff Road
Colbert

Department of Ecology
Eastern Regional Office
North 4601 Monroe Street
Spokane

EPA Region 10
Records Center, 7th Floor
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle

Written comments on the proposed discharge of treated water to the Little Spokane River may be mailed any time until March 31 to:

Ali Raad
Washington Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Program
300 Desmond Drive
Lacey, Washington 98503

For more information about the Colbert Landfill site, please call one of the following project managers:

Dean Fowler, Spokane County Utilities, **(509) 456-3604**

William W. Harris, Acting Project Manager for Department of Ecology,
(206) 407-7228

Neil Thompson, U.S. EPA, **(206) 553-7177** or
toll-free **1-800-424-4372**